



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, January 12, 2006

**CONTACT:** Lynn Whitehouse  
(619) 236-5821

### **San Diego Public Library to Screen Documentary Film "Freedom On My Mind" on Feb. 5.**

**SAN DIEGO** – The City of San Diego Public Library, in celebration of Black History Month, will screen the documentary film "Freedom on My Mind." This film was nominated for an Academy Award in 1994, and won both the American Historical Association and the Organization of American Historians awards for best documentary in the same year, as well as grand jury prize for documentary at Sundance Film Festival. This landmark film tells the story of the Mississippi freedom movement in the early 1960s when a handful of young activists changed history.

The screening will take place Sunday, Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.

"Freedom on My Mind," the story of the volatile battle to register black voters in Mississippi during the summer of 1964, makes provocative use of that old film to situate viewers in a blatantly racist time and place.

Interwoven with the archival material are recent interviews with many who were active in the civil rights movement: L. C. Dorsey, a sharecropper's daughter from Mississippi; Bob Moses, a black graduate student from Harvard, Marshall Ganz, one of many white, middle-class college students bused in to register black voters and to attract the kind of news-media attention that Southern blacks would have been unlikely to draw on their own.

As they look back 30 years to what was called Freedom Summer, their testimony adds a complex layer to the film. An absorbing work of historical preservation and strong ideas.

Clayborne Carson, a Stanford University professor, calls this film, "A splendid achievement...In its dramatic effectiveness and historical acuity, it surpasses all previous documentaries on the southern struggle, including the remarkable Eyes on the Prize."

For more information, call the Central Library at 619-236-5800 or visit the Library on the City's Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.

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